

AMERICAN CRYSTAL SUGAR FACTORY LOCKOUT

(Mr. ELLISON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to what is a very serious problem for the families of at least 1,300 workers, 900 of whom live in my home State of Minnesota. They've been in a labor dispute with their company. On Friday, there is a chance to go back to the bargaining table to come up with a good settlement.

Now, these workers, they didn't go on strike. They've been locked out. They've been locked out for 10 months at the American Crystal Sugar Factory in Moorhead, Minnesota. Many of these people have worked at this factory their entire lives and are really good, solid members of their community. These workers have gone to work, and they've actually stood up and gone to bat for the company, particularly regarding the sugar program, and in countless other ways as well. These workers even vowed not to go on strike because they know how important their work is to the company and to the community. The only thing they've done wrong is they haven't been able to pay their higher health insurance costs, which is the real crux of the negotiation.

This Friday, the sides are going back to the bargaining table for the first time in 4 months. I commend both labor and management for getting back to the table. But, Madam Speaker, I urge management to listen carefully to the pleas of these workers and to come up with a fair settlement.

□ 1220

LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION

(Mr. GRAVES of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Madam Speaker, in 2009, the Obama administration said that unemployment would never reach 8 percent if the stimulus was approved. Well, it was. And 3 years later and \$1.2 trillion in spending, unemployment has remained above 8 percent for 40 consecutive months, the longest span since the Great Depression. Even more alarming is that the 8 percent doesn't illustrate how grim the situation really is.

More than 500,000 more Americans are out of work today than they were when President Obama took office in 2009, and the percentage of Americans working is at a 30-year low. Unemployment would be even higher if it were not for the grit and the resolve of the American people themselves. With these numbers, it's clear that President Obama's agenda has failed, and it's making the economy worse.

House Republicans have a plan. They have a plan for America's job creators

to help turn this economy around. It's time for the President and it's time for the Senate Democrats to stop blocking jobs for Americans and to join us in helping get Americans back to work.

68TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ALLIED INVASION OF EUROPE

(Mr. YODER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YODER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the 68th anniversary of the Allied expeditionary forces landing in Normandy, France, at the start of the end of World War II. The allied invasion of Europe was led by a native Kansan born in Abilene and a truly great American hero, former-President General Dwight "Ike" Eisenhower.

On the morning of June 6, 1944, General Eisenhower inspired his men to fight for the values of liberty and freedom, stating:

Your task will not be an easy one. Your enemy is well trained, well equipped, and battle hardened. He will fight savagely.

Our homefronts have given us an overwhelming superiority in weapons and munitions of war, and placed at our disposal great reserves of trained fighting men. The tide has turned. The free men of the world are marching together to victory.

Good luck. And let us beseech the blessings of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking.

We all remember the tremendous sacrifices the Greatest Generation gave for the cause of freedom and liberty as we mark this solemn anniversary today.

REPUBLICAN BUDGET

(Ms. HANABUSA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HANABUSA. Madam Speaker, I'm here to ask that the Republican budget respect our seniors.

We've got to ask ourselves why are we giving those who make over a million dollars about \$394,000 on average in tax cuts and those making between \$20,000 and \$30,000 get \$129. Why? And why is it that there is about \$3 trillion in breaks that we're giving to Big Business, Big Oil, gas, and the super rich? Why are we doing that?

Then there is an effort in the Republican budget to change Medicare to the voucher program. This is why AARP says, "Republicans are shifting the cost to our seniors and ending the Medicare guarantee, that guarantee that many of them rely upon." And our Congressional Budget Office agrees with this.

The attacks on the Affordable Care Act by the Republicans also are going to set us back. That act closes the doughnut hole for seniors' prescription drugs. It also allows them to have preventive health care, and we're taking that away, too.

Madam Speaker, let's just respect our seniors, and not do what we're doing.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the further consideration of H.R. 5325, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GRAVES of Georgia). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 667 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 5325.

Will the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) kindly take the chair.

□ 1224

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 5325) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes, with Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Tuesday, June 5, 2012, the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FLORES) had been disposed of, and the bill had been read through page 56, line 24.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Chair, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from New Jersey is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I yield to the gentleman from Virginia for the purpose of engaging in a colloquy.

Mr. HURT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

In Virginia's Fifth District, State and local officials have been working diligently to attract new businesses to create new jobs in Southside, Virginia. In Henry County, a county located in Virginia's Fifth District, local officials have identified a 200-acre site that has the potential to attract major economic development opportunities at a time when the Martinsville-Henry County area suffers from the highest unemployment rate in Virginia—15 percent and 10 percent respectively.

Unfortunately, Federal regulators, including the Army Corps of Engineers, have resisted moving forward with this important initiative and stalled the